AGRICULTURE COUNTS

LESSON PLANS
GLOSSARY

acre—A unit of area in the U.S. Customary System, used in land measurement equal to 4,840 square yards, or 43,560 square feet—about the size of a football field.

agriculture—The science, art, and business of cultivating soil, producing crops, and raising livestock; farming or ranching.

analyze—To examine methodically by separating into parts and studying their interrelations.

arable—Fit for cultivation, as by plowing.

assess—To determine the value of.

appraise—To estimate the quality, amount, size, and other features of.

bale—A large package of raw or finished material tightly bound with twine or wire and often wrapped.

bushel—A unit of volume or capacity in the U.S. Customary System, used in dry measure and equal to 4 pecks, 2,150.42 cubic inches, or 35.24 liters—about the size of a round laundry basket.

byproduct—Something produced in the making of something else.

census—An official, usually periodic enumeration of every person or item (e.g., farm) in a population, often including the collection of related demographic information.

central tendency—Statistical operations that measure averages (mean, median).

commercial—Of, relating to, or being goods, often unrefined, produced and distributed in large quantities for use by industry.

commodity—An article of trade or commerce, especially an agricultural or mining product that can be processed and resold.

comprehensive—Large in scope or content.

conservation—The protection, preservation, management, or restoration of wildlife and of natural resources such as forests, soil, and water.

consistent—Being in agreement with itself; coherent and uniform.

count—To name or list (the units of a group or collection) one by one in order to determine a total.

crop— Cultivated plants or agricultural produce, such as grain, vegetables, or fruit, considered as a group.

cwt—A unit of weight in the U.S. Customary System equal to 100 pounds.

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data—Factual information, especially information organized for analysis or used to reason or make decisions.

drought—A long period of abnormally low rainfall, especially one that adversely affects growing or living conditions.

dormant—In a condition of biological rest or inactivity.

ecosystem—A system of relationships between organisms and their environment.

end product—The result of a completed series of processes or changes.

expenses—An expenditure of money; a cost.

fertilizer—Any of a large number of natural and synthetic materials, including manure and nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium compounds, spread on or worked into soil to increase its capacity to support plant growth.

goods—Articles of trade or commerce, especially agricultural products that can be transported.

index—A number indicating change in magnitude of price relative to the magnitude at some specified point, usually taken as 100.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM)—A system of pest management aimed at reducing agricultural losses caused by pests using methods that cause minimal environmental damage and little or no health risk.

irrigation—The act of supplying with water by means of ditches, pipes or streams.

livestock—Domestic animals, such as cattle or horses, raised for home use or for profit, especially on a farm.

mean—The value obtained by dividing the sum of a set of quantities by the number of quantities in the set. Also called average.

median—The middle value in a distribution, above and below which lie an equal number of values.

product—Something produced by human or mechanical effort or by a natural process.

production—The act or process of making a product.

semolina—The gritty, coarse particles of wheat left after the finer flour has passed through the bolting machine, used for pasta.

statistics—The mathematics of the collection, organization, and interpretation of numerical data.

survey—A gathering of a sample of data or opinions considered to be representative of a whole.

uniform—Always the same.

token—Something serving as an indication of something else.

yield—An amount produced; a product.

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